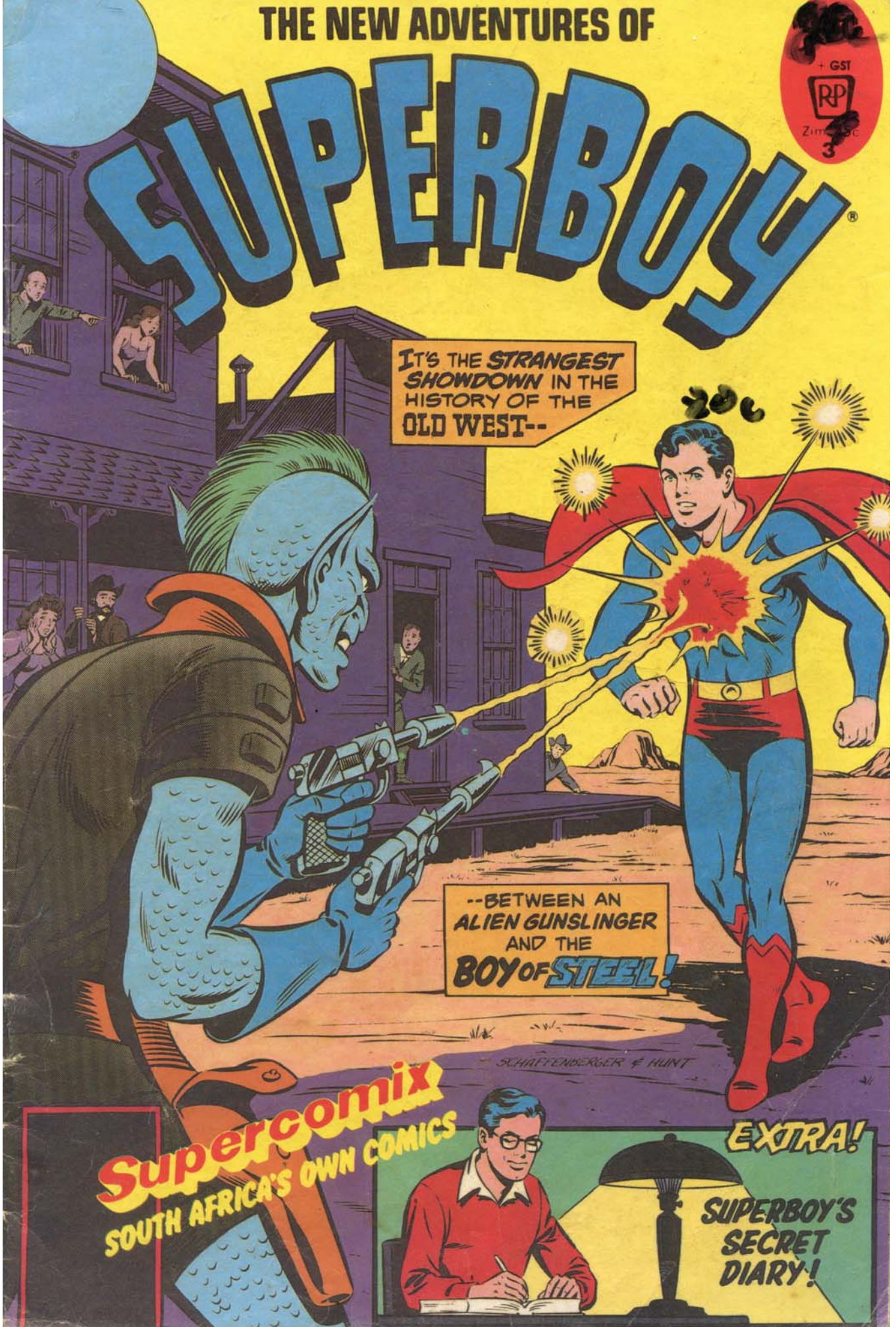
THE NEW ADVENTURES OF
SUPERBOY
+ GST
RP
3
IT'S THE STRANGEST SHOWDOWN IN THE HISTORY OF THE OLD WEST--
--BETWEEN AN ALIEN GUNSLINGER AND THE BOY OF STEEL!
SCHAFFENBERGER & HUNT
Supercomix
SOUTH AFRICA'S OWN COMICS
EXTRA!
SUPERBOY'S SECRET DIARY!

MEET YOUR FAVOURITE COMIC CHARACTERS AND ENJOY EXCITING ADVENTURE IN...

SOUTH AFRICA'S OWN COMICS

fun for everyone!!

ROCKETED TO EARTH FROM THE EXPLODING PLANET KRYPTON, BABY KAL-EL WAS ADOPTED BY A KINDLY COUPLE NAMED JONATHAN AND MARTHA KENT. RENAMED CLARK, HE GREW TO ADOLESCENCE IN SMALLVILLE, LEARNING TO USE WISELY THE AMAZING SUPER-POWERS THAT WOULD ONE DAY MAKE HIM THE WORLD'S GREATEST HERO! THESE ARE THE ADVENTURES OF SUPERMAN WHEN HE WAS...
NO MORE MA AND PA KENT... NO MORE LANA LANG... NO MORE SMALLVILLE!
AND AS FAR AS THE REST OF THE WORLD IS CONCERNED... --NO MORE SUPERBOY!
SUPERBOY
1966
1959
1941
1925
1918
THIS IS THE WAY IT HAS TO END!
1909
1897
1888
S-3713
LEAVE THE EARTH OF SUPERBOY'S ERA AND THE TOWN OF SMALLVILLE FAR BEHIND...
PLUMB THE SWIRLING COSMIC DEPTHS OF THE TIME-BARRIER WITH THE TEEN OF STEEL AS HE PLUNGES INTO EARTH'S PAST--
--INTO ANOTHER CENTURY... AND A NEW LIFE... WHERE HE MUST BECOME...
"The SUPERBOY WHO NEVER WAS!"
WRITER: CARY BATES
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SUPERBOY
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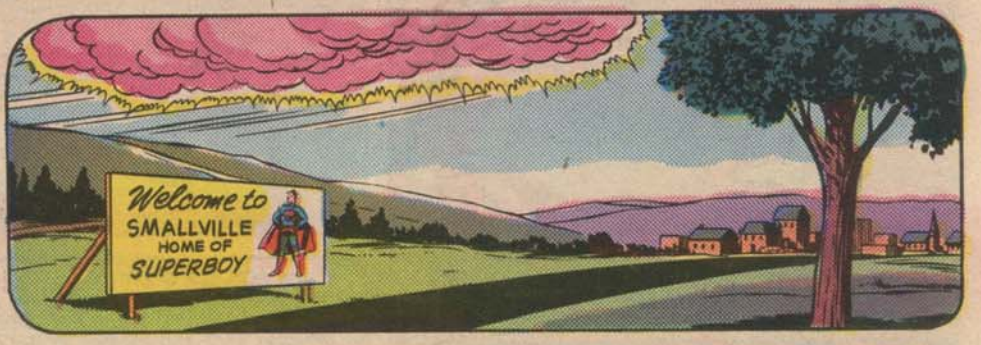
321 MAPLE STREET -- WHERE LONG-TIME SMALLVILLE RESIDENTS JONATHAN AND MARTHA KENT RETURN HOME AFTER A WEEK AWAY ON THE WEST COAST...
I MUST SAY, I CERTAINLY ENJOYED MYSELF WITH MARY AND FRED OUT ON THE COAST.
I'LL SAY! YOU'RE LUCKY YOU DIDN'T GET BADLY SUNBURNED!
TAXI
THE CALIFORNIA BEACHES MAKE FOR A FINE CHANGE OF PACE, ALL RIGHT--
--BUT NOTHING CAN TAKE THE PLACE OF THIS HOUSE AND OUR GENERAL STORE!
AS THEY SAY, IT'S ALWAYS GOOD TO GET BACK HOME AGAIN!
IT'S TOO EARLY FOR CLARK TO BE HOME FROM SCHOOL YET, WE COULD SURE USE HIS SUPER-SPEED TO TACKLE ALL THIS UNPACKING!
JONATHAN! THIS IS TERRIBLE!
MARTHA, YOUR CALIFORNIA TAN JUST WENT WHITE! WHAT'S THE MATTER?
IT'S... ALL HERE IN THIS NOTE! NO QUESTION ABOUT IT BEING IN HIS HANDWRITING!
IT'S FROM CLARK! H-HE'S GONE! ;CHOKE; AND HE'S... N-NEVER COMING BACK!
WHAAAT?! LET ME SEE THAT! YOU MUST'VE MISREAD IT, MARTHA!
OH, JONATHAN... IF ONLY WE HAD BEEN HERE THIS WEEK... WE MIGHT HAVE BEEN ABLE TO REASSURE HIM THIS IS WHERE HE BELONGS!
JEHOSHAPHAT! IF... IF HE REALLY MEANS WHAT HE SAYS, YOU'RE RIGHT!
NO ONE ELSE ON EARTH WILL EVER SEE OUR SUPER-SON AGAIN... INCLUDING US!
BUT WHERE, JONATHAN -- WHERE COULD HE HAVE GONE?
2

I HAVE NO IDEA! ALL THE NOTE SAYS IS, "... I'M HEADING FOR A PLACE WHERE MY SUPER-POWERS CAN NEVER ENDANGER INNOCENT LIVES AGAIN!"
SOMETHING SUPER-TRAUMATIC MUST'VE HAPPENED DURING THE PAST WEEK... TO MAKE OUR CLARK CALL HIMSELF A "MENACE"!
I AGREE, MARTHA! BUT WHATEVER IT WAS THAT GAVE HIM SUCH A LOW OPINION OF HIMSELF--THE DAMAGE HAS ALREADY BEEN DONE!
ALL WE CAN DO NOW IS HOPE AND PRAY FOR OUR SON...
"... WHEREVER IT IS IN THE COSMOS HE'S CHOSEN TO EXILE HIMSELF! OH, MARTHA... WHAT'S IT GOING TO BE LIKE WITHOUT HIM?"
"DON'T BE ASHAMED, JONATHAN! SNIFF! LET IT OUT..."
IF MA AND PA HADN'T BEEN AWAY THE PAST FEW DAYS, THEY WOULD'VE DONE ALL THEY COULD TO TALK ME OUT OF THIS! BUT DEEP DOWN, I KNOW I'VE MADE THE RIGHT DECISION--
--FOR THE SAFETY AND WELL-BEING OF EVERYONE ON EARTH!
EVEN THOUGH I'VE ALWAYS HAD GOOD INTENTIONS-- AND THE BEST TRAINING POSSIBLE UNDER MA AND PA'S GUIDANCE...
--THERE HAVE BEEN AN INCREASING NUMBER OF INSTANCES WHEN I'VE MADE A MESS OF MY SUPER-POWERS!
IF THERE WERE EVER ANY DOUBTS IN MY MIND ABOUT HOW EASILY-- AND UNKNOWINGLY -- I COULD BECOME A NIGHTMARISH MENACE, RECENT FOUL-UPS--ADDED TO THOSE OF THE PAST--HAVE MADE THE UNPLEASANT TRUTH CRYSTAL-CLEAR TO ME!
3

"UNFORGIVABLE SUPER-POWER BLUNDERS--FROM JEOPARDIZING THOUSANDS OF LIVES BY UNWITTINGLY SETTING OFF A GIANT TIDAL WAVE TOWARD HAWAII...

"...TO UNINTENTIONALLY UNLEASHING A POISONOUS CLOUD ON MY HOME AND MY NEIGHBORS...



"THE LAST STRAW CAME WHEN ONE OF MY IDENTITY-SWITCHING STUNTS BACKFIRED...

"...CAUSING LANA LANG TO COME WITHIN A BREATH OF DROWNING...

"NEVER AGAIN COULD I ALLOW MY SUPER-POWERS TO ENDANGER ONE MORE LIFE! THE ONLY SOLUTION--THE ONLY CHOICE LEFT TO ME--WAS TO GO INTO PERMANENT EXILE!

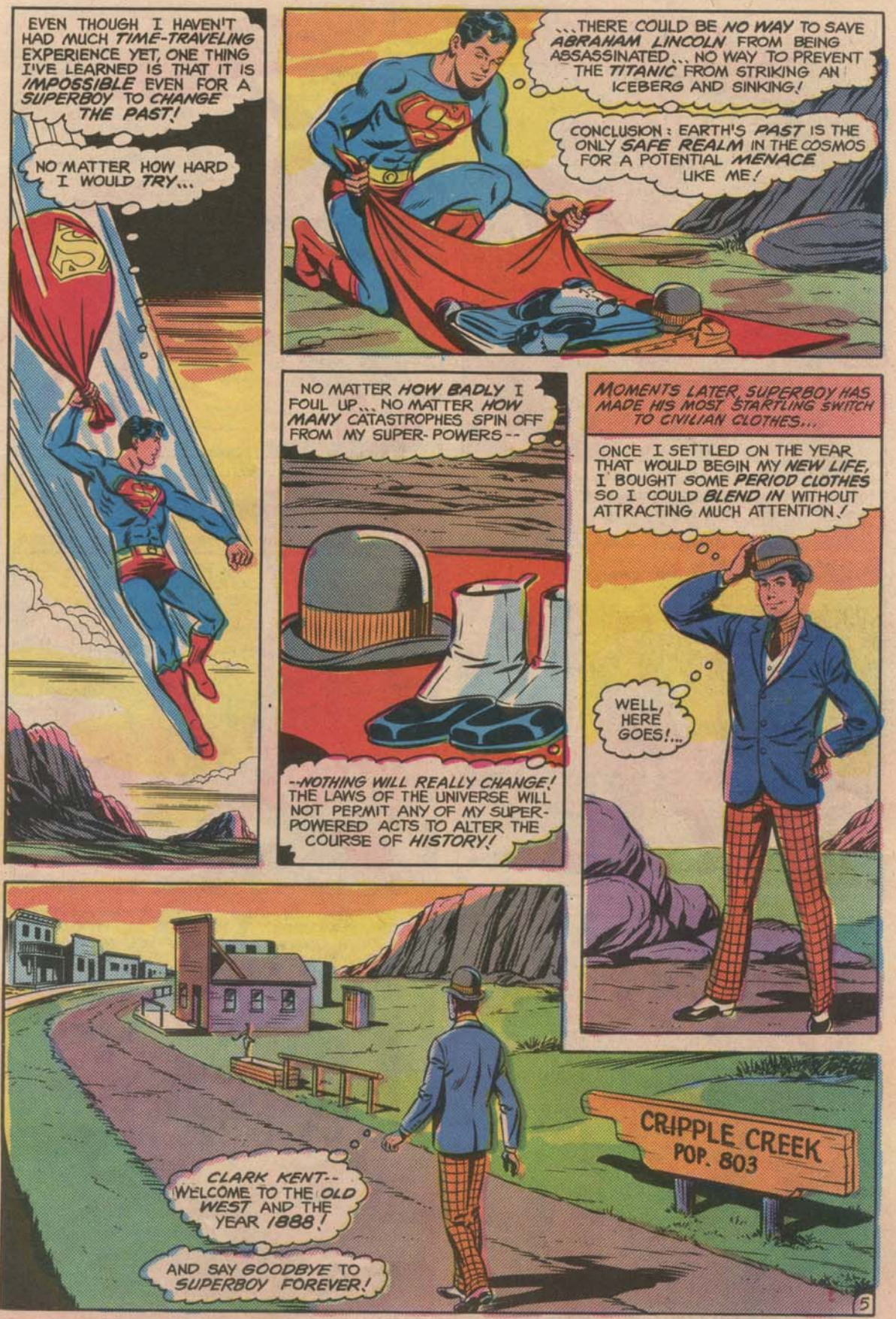
"BUT WHERE COULD I GO..."

...WHERE THERE'D BE ABSOLUTELY NO CHANCE OF MY CAUSING CATASTROPHE? EVEN IF I FOUND ANOTHER SUITABLE PLANET TO LIVE ON--I'D INEVITABLY TURN INTO JUST AS MUCH OF A MENACE AS ON EARTH!

HAVING RULED OUT SPACE--

--I CONSIDERED TIME! OBVIOUSLY, A FUTURE ERA WOULD BE JUST AS ENDANGERED BY MY BACKFIRING SUPER-POWERS AS THE PRESENT--

--WHICH LEFT THE PAST... AND ALL ITS POSSIBLE HAVENS!


EVEN THOUGH I HAVEN'T HAD MUCH TIME-TRAVELING EXPERIENCE YET, ONE THING I'VE LEARNED IS THAT IT IS IMPOSSIBLE EVEN FOR A SUPERBOY TO CHANGE THE PAST!
NO MATTER HOW HARD I WOULD TRY...
...THERE COULD BE NO WAY TO SAVE ABRAHAM LINCOLN FROM BEING ASSASSINATED... NO WAY TO PREVENT THE TITANIC FROM STRIKING AN ICEBERG AND SINKING!
CONCLUSION: EARTH'S PAST IS THE ONLY SAFE REALM IN THE COSMOS FOR A POTENTIAL MENACE LIKE ME!
NO MATTER HOW BADLY I FOUL UP... NO MATTER HOW MANY CATASTROPHES SPIN OFF FROM MY SUPER-POWERS--
--NOTHING WILL REALLY CHANGE! THE LAWS OF THE UNIVERSE WILL NOT PERMIT ANY OF MY SUPER-POWERED ACTS TO ALTER THE COURSE OF HISTORY!
MOMENTS LATER, SUPERBOY HAS MADE HIS MOST STARTLING SWITCH TO CIVILIAN CLOTHES...
ONCE I SETTLED ON THE YEAR THAT WOULD BEGIN MY NEW LIFE, I BOUGHT SOME PERIOD CLOTHES SO I COULD BLEND IN WITHOUT ATTRACTING MUCH ATTENTION!
WELL, HERE GOES!...
CRIPPLE CREEK POP. 803
CLARK KENT-- WELCOME TO THE OLD WEST AND THE YEAR 1888!
AND SAY GOODBYE TO SUPERBOY FOREVER!
5

TWO WEEKS LATER
MAKE YORE MOVE, SHERIFF! GO FOR YORE PIECE!
I WARNED YUH, JESS--
BLAMM
ARGGHH! MUH ARM--!
THAT'LL BE THE LAST TIME YOU USE THAT ARM TO FLASH YORE GUN FER A HOLDUP, JESS MANNING!
FIRST WE GO TO DOC HOBART'S OFFICE TO GIT YOU PATCHED UP... THEN I GOT A NICE, CLEAN JAIL CELL WAITIN' JUST FER YOU!
A LUCKY SHOT, COOPER-- THET'S ALL IT WAS!
A MOMENT LATER, IN THE CLUTTERED OFFICE OF THE CRIPPLE CREEK COURIER -- EDITOR RUFUS MATLOCK AND HIS LOYAL HELPER TOIL AWAY ON THE NEXT EDITION...
JUST ANOTHER HUNDRED MORE COPIES TO RUN OFF, PA!
YOU KEEP A CLOSE WATCH ON THAT OLD PRESS, DAUGHTER! HAS A TENDENCY TO GUM-UP IN THE MIDDLE OF A RUN!
MR. MATLOCK! MR. MATLOCK!
AND WHAT ARE YOU SO ALL FIRED-UP ABOUT, CLARK KENT?
A SHOOT-OUT ON THE OTHER END OF TOWN JUST A FEW MINUTES AGO, SIR! SHERIFF COOPER JUST OUTDREW JESS MANNING AND WINGED HIM!
AND I WROTE EVERY DETAIL IN MY NOTEPAD-- JUST THE WAY YOU TAUGHT ME!
JESS MANNING, EH? THAT OUTLAW IS ONE MEAN HOMBRE WITH A GUN!
BUT YOU DID GOOD, CLARK! YOU MIGHT HAVE THE MAKIN'S OF A FIRST-CLASS REPORTER YET!
6

SOON, AFTER THE DAY'S WORK IS DONE...
MIND SOME COMPANY ON THE WALK HOME, GAIL?
CRIPPLE CREEK COURIER
I DECLARE, CLARK-- IF YOU AREN'T THE POLITEST YOUNG MAN WHO'S EVER SET FOOT IN THIS TOWN!

AND YOU'RE DIFFERENT IN OTHER WAYS, TOO... NOT AT ALL LIKE THE OTHER ROWDY YOUNG MEN 'ROUND THESE PARTS!
ARE ALL THE FOLKS BACK EAST--IN SMALLVILLE-- AS CIVILIZED AS YOU?
WELL, I GUESS I MUST ADMIT--

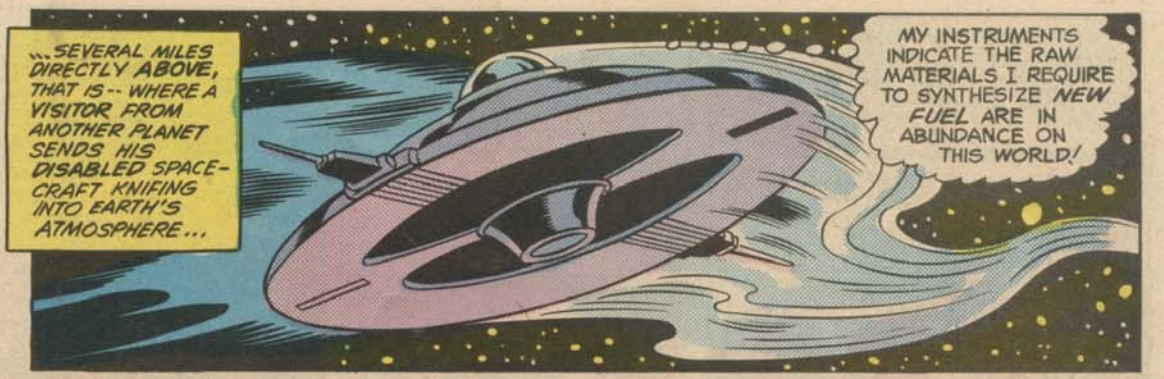
--SMALLVILLE IS SOMEWHAT AHEAD OF ITS TIME!
WELL, LOOKY HERE-- IF IT AIN'T THE NEW TENDERFOOT IN TOWN!
OH DEAR...

LUCUS McCABE, YOU AND YOUR BROTHER MAPE MOSEY ON AND LEAVE US ALONE!
YOU ALWAYS WALK WITH A PRETTY MISS FER PROTECTION, DUDE?
LOOKS TO ME LIKE WE GOT OURSELVES A REAL YELLOW-BELLY HERE, LUKE!

I'M SURE YOU FELLAS DON'T MEAN ANY REAL HARM... SO WHY DON'T YOU JUST KEEP ON WALKING LIKE THE YOUNG LADY ASKED?
HAW HAW! YUH HEAR THAT, MAPE? THE KID SAYS WE DON'T MEAN NO HARM!

IS THAT A FACK? LET'S SEE WHAT HE SAYS AFTER WE START CLEANIN' THE STREET WITH HIS FANCY CLOTHES--WHILE HE'S IN 'EM!
PHWWTT

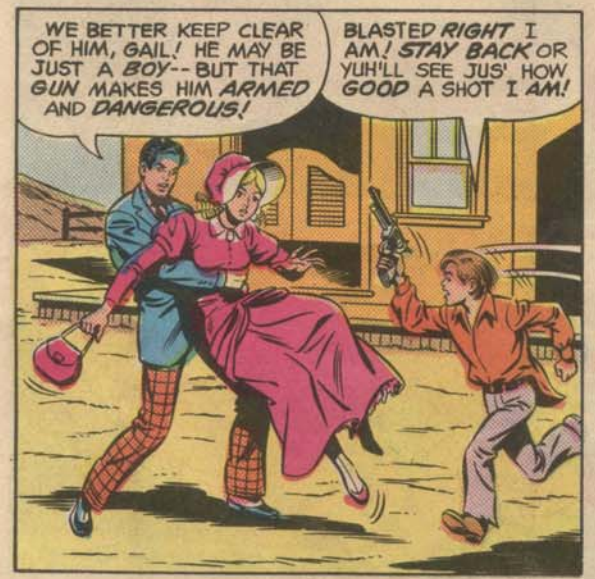
OKAY, BOYS... I TRIED TO ASK YOU NICELY! I SUPPOSE I'LL HAVE TO GET PHYSICAL NOW!
HAW! YUH HEAR THAT, LUKE? I THINK THE TENDER-FOOT'S GONNA THROW HIS IDEA OF A PUNCH!
POOR CLARK! I CAN'T BEAR TO SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING--
OOOOFF!
HERE IT IS, BOYS--MY IDEA OF A PUNCH!
POW
WHAP
HOW DOES IT HIT YOU?
OWWFF!
NOW ISN'T THAT A COINCIDENCE! THEY BOTH DECIDED TO DOZE OFF JUST WHEN THE CONVERSATION WAS GETTING INTERESTING!
?!? CLARK KENT! MY, YOU ARE A GENTLEMAN JUST FULL OF SURPRISES!
OF COURSE, THE EDITOR'S DAUGHTER DOESN'T DREAM HOW SURPRISING THOSE SURPRISES REALLY ARE!
WHAT A WONDERFUL FEELING NOT TO HAVE TO PUT ON THAT MEEK-AND-MILD ROUTINE ANY MORE!
SINCE THERE'S NO REASON FOR SUPERBOY TO APPEAR IN THIS ERA--THERE'S NO REASON FOR CLARK KENT TO BE THE PUSHOVER HE USED TO BE!
AND HOW GAIL WAS LOOKING AT ME WITH SHEER ADMIRATION... THE WAY LANA LANG USED TO LOOK AT ME AS SUPERBOY!
IT'S GREAT TO BE APPRECIATED FOR BEING MYSELF FOR A CHANGE--AND NOT THE SUPER-HERO WITH THE CAPE!
BUT AT THAT VERY MOMENT, SEVERAL MILES AWAY...
8


...SEVERAL MILES DIRECTLY ABOVE, THAT IS -- WHERE A VISITOR FROM ANOTHER PLANET SENDS HIS DISABLED SPACE-CRAFT KNIFING INTO EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE...
MY INSTRUMENTS INDICATE THE RAW MATERIALS I REQUIRE TO SYNTHESIZE NEW FUEL ARE IN ABUNDANCE ON THIS WORLD!

HAVE BARELY ENOUGH PROTO-POWER TO NAVIGATE THROUGH THIS ATMOSPHERE...
NO CHANCE TO CONDUCT AN AERIAL SCAN OF THE PLANET'S MOST BOUNTIFUL DEPOSITS...

MUST FOCUS MY SIGHTS ON THE NEAREST AVAILABLE DEPOSIT IN THE GENERAL AREA BELOW ... AND TRUST IT WILL PROVE SUFFICIENT FOR MY NEEDS...
YES, READER -- THE GENERAL AREA BELOW HAPPENS TO BE THE AMERICAN SOUTHWEST!

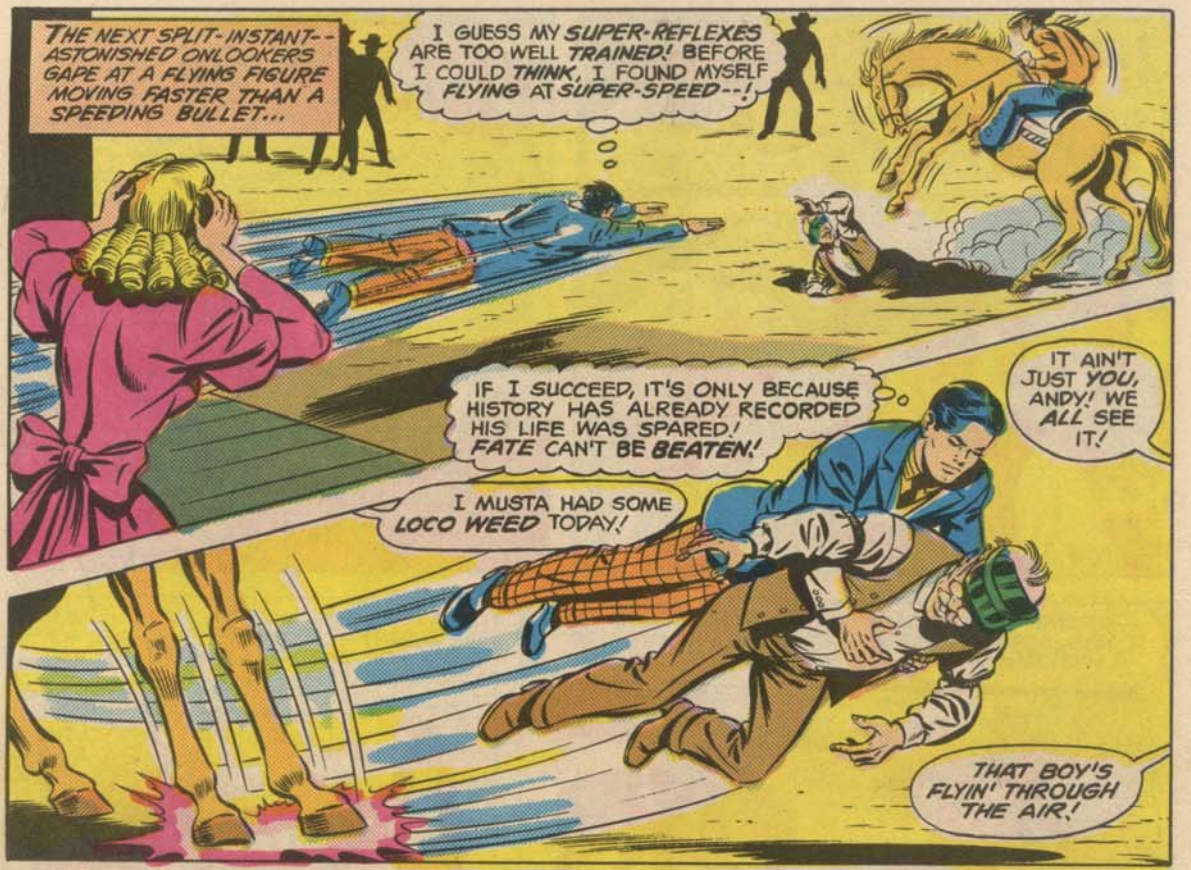
THAT AFTERNOON, IN CRIPPLE CREEK...
SOMEBODY STOP THAT LI'L WHIPPERSNAPPER! HE STOLE MUH SHOOTIN' IRON RIGHT OUTA MUH HOLSTER!


WE BETTER KEEP CLEAR OF HIM, GAIL! HE MAY BE JUST A BOY -- BUT THAT GUN MAKES HIM ARMED AND DANGEROUS!
BLASTED RIGHT I AM! STAY BACK OR YUH'LL SEE JUS' HOW GOOD A SHOT I AM!

WHEW! I WAS ABOUT TO BLOW A BLAST OF SUPER-BREATH TO KNOCK THAT GUNBOY OFF HIS FEET...
...BUT IT WOULD BE A WASTED EFFORT! IF HISTORY CALLS FOR HIM TO STEAL THAT GUN AND GET AWAY WITH IT...

...THEN THAT'S WHAT WILL AND MUST HAPPEN! EVEN IF I TRIED TO STOP HIM--SOMETHING WOULD INEVITABLY GO WRONG AND HE'D ESCAPE WITH THE GUN ANYWAY!
NO FORCE IN THE UNIVERSE CAN ALTER DESTINY--THAT'S WHY I'M HERE!
THE SAME UNIVERSAL LAWS THAT PREVENT MY SUPER-POWERS FROM DOING ANY HARM IN THIS ERA ALSO PREVENT THEM FROM DOING ANY GOOD! THAT'S THE WAY IT MUST BE!
HOTEL
PSSTT! PA... PA, IT'S ME-- TOBY!
I SWIPED A SIX-SHOOTER FOR YUH, JEST LIKE YUH TOLD ME!
THET'S MUH BOY!
AND A MOMENT LATER--AFTER RAISING A RUCKUS TO BRING SHERIFF COOPER OUT OF THE FRONT OFFICE...
I'LL TAKE MUH CHANCES, SHERIFF! AFTER I LOCK YOU IN HERE IN MUH PLACE!
I DON'T KNOW WHERE YUH GOT THE GUN, MANNING... BUT I PROMISE YUH WON'T GET FAR! THERE'LL BE A POSSE OUT AFTER YUH BEFORE SUNUP!
LET'S YOU AN' ME RIDE, BOY! WE GOTTA PUT A HEAP O' MILES BETWEEN US AN' THIS TOWN BY MORNIN'!
YORE GONNA BE A FIRST-CLASS OUTLAW SOMEDAY, SON... I FEEL IT IN MUH BONES!
YUH MAY BE JEST A TADPOLE NOW, BUT YUH GOT ALL THE MAKIN'S!
WILLICKERS! YUH REALLY THINK SO, PA?
10

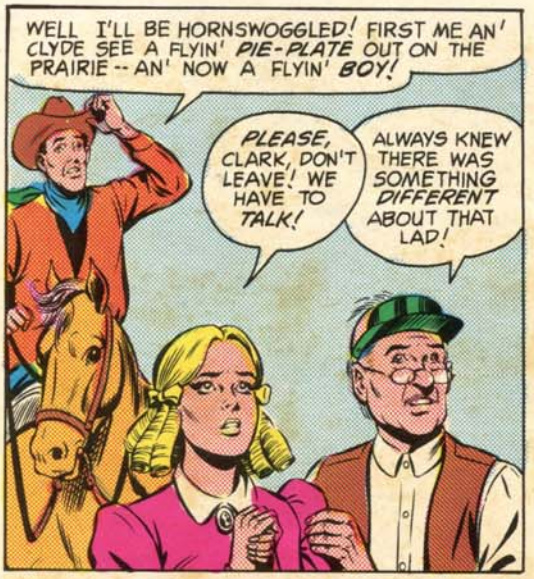
NEXT DAY, AS ANOTHER EDITION OF THE CRIPPLE CREEK COURIER APPEARS...
WHAT A HEADLINE! JESS MANNING SPRUNG FROM JAIL BY HIS TEN-YEAR-OLD SON!
MARK MY WORDS, DAUGHTER--THAT BOY'S GONNA CAUSE THE WORLD A HEAP O' TROUBLE SOME DAY!
CRIPPLE CREEK COURIER
NYYAHHH! EGGHHH!
WHAT IN THUNDER--? HAVEN'T HEARD HORSES SPOOKED LIKE THAT SINCE THE 'QUAKE OF '86.'
WHAT'S THE COMMOTION OUT THERE?
...AS BIG AS A BARN IT WAS... SHAPED LIKE A PIE-PLATE!
AN' FLYIN' THROUGH THE SKY FASTER'N ANY BIRD WE EVER LAID EYES ON!
BUNK, CLYDE! YOU EXPECT US TO SWALLOW THIS LOAD OF HOGWASH YOU AND WES COOKED UP OUT ON THE PRAIRIE?
JUST A MOMENT...
...I'D BE VERY INTERESTED IN HEARING THE STORY YOU TWO GENTS HAVE TO TELL--FOR THE NEXT EDITION OF THE COURIER!
IT'S THAT NEWSPAPERMAN, MATLOCK!
WHOA, CYCLONE!
GET BACK, MATLOCK-- MY HORSE IS SO SPOOKED IT'S LOCO!
OOFF! LOST MY FOOTING--
FATHER, LOOK OUT!
GREAT SCOTT! HE'S GOING TO BE TRAMPLED--!
11

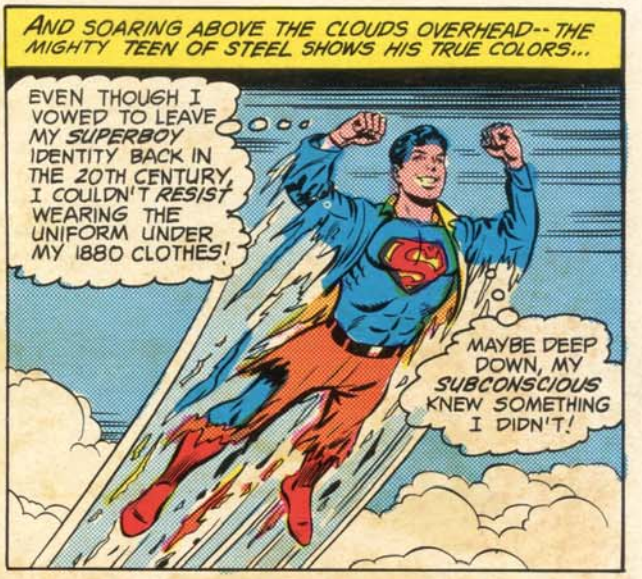

THE NEXT SPLIT-INSTANT--ASTONISHED ONLOOKERS GAPE AT A FLYING FIGURE MOVING FASTER THAN A SPEEDING BULLET...
I GUESS MY SUPER-REFLEXES ARE TOO WELL TRAINED! BEFORE I COULD THINK, I FOUND MYSELF FLYING AT SUPER-SPEED--!
IF I SUCCEED, IT'S ONLY BECAUSE HISTORY HAS ALREADY RECORDED HIS LIFE WAS SPARED! FATE CAN'T BE BEATEN!
I MUSTA HAD SOME LOCO WEED TODAY!
IT AIN'T JUST YOU, ANDY! WE ALL SEE IT!
THAT BOY'S FLYIN' THROUGH THE AIR!

C-CLARK? H-HOW COULD YOU DO... WHAT YOU D-DID TO SAVE MY SKIN?
HE'S STILL ALIVE! BUT WHAT IF I HADN'T BEEN HERE--?
DOES THIS MEAN I'VE DONE THE IMPOSSIBLE?! HAVE I ACTUALLY CHANGED HISTORY?

NO, I COULDN'T HAVE!
FAR-FETCHED AS IT SOUNDS, THERE'S ONLY ONE OTHER POSSIBLE EXPLANATION-- IT WAS MY DESTINY TO MAKE THIS TIME-TRIP TO THE 1880'S!
I WAS FATED TO SAVE MR. MATLOCK'S LIFE... BECAUSE I WAS ALWAYS MEANT TO BECOME PART OF THE OLD WEST HISTORY I WAS AFRAID TO TAMPER WITH!

BUT IN ALL THE RESEARCH I DID IN READING UP ON THE OLD WEST TO PREPARE FOR MY NEW LIFE-- I NEVER CAME ACROSS ANY MENTION OF A FLYING BOY IN THE CRIPPLE CREEK COURIER!
WHICH MEANS I CAN DO THIS-- AND NOT WORRY ABOUT BECOMING A HEADLINE AHEAD OF MY TIME!
LOOK-- HE'S TAKIN' TO THE SKY!
SALOON


WELL I'LL BE HORNSWOGGLED! FIRST ME AN' CLYDE SEE A FLYIN' PIE-PLATE OUT ON THE PRAIRIE -- AN' NOW A FLYIN' BOY!
PLEASE, CLARK, DON'T LEAVE! WE HAVE TO TALK!
ALWAYS KNEW THERE WAS SOMETHING DIFFERENT ABOUT THAT LAD!

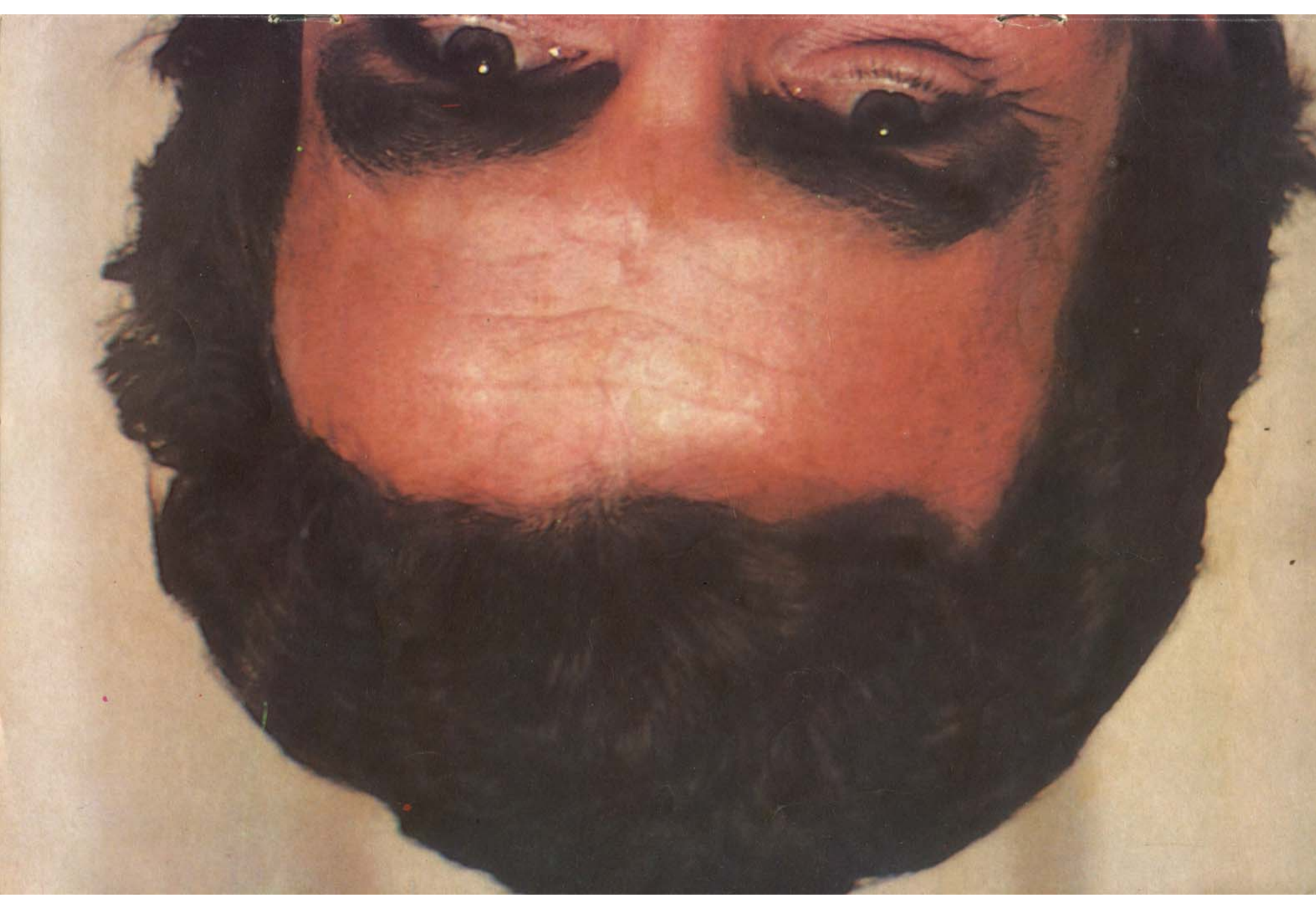

AND SOARING ABOVE THE CLOUDS OVERHEAD -- THE MIGHTY TEEN OF STEEL SHOWS HIS TRUE COLORS...
EVEN THOUGH I VOWED TO LEAVE MY SUPERBOY IDENTITY BACK IN THE 20TH CENTURY, I COULDN'T RESIST WEARING THE UNIFORM UNDER MY 1880 CLOTHES!
MAYBE DEEP DOWN, MY SUBCONSCIOUS KNEW SOMETHING I DIDN'T!

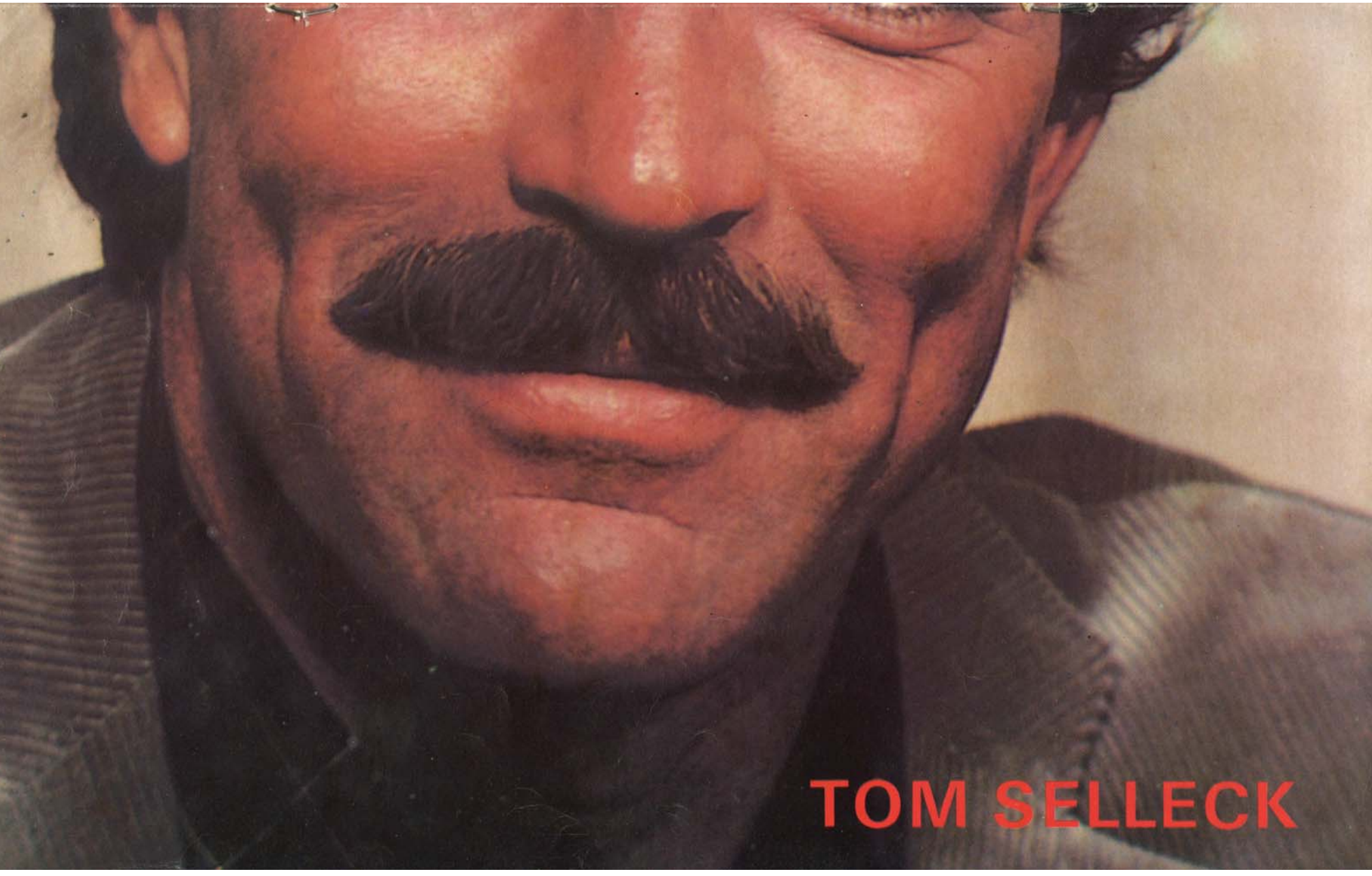
BUT NOW THAT I KNOW I'M HERE IN THIS ERA TO PLAY OUT A ROLE DESTINY HAS ALREADY CHOSEN FOR ME --
--I MIGHT AS WELL SEE IF I CAN PUT MY POWERS TO GOOD USE AFTER ALL!

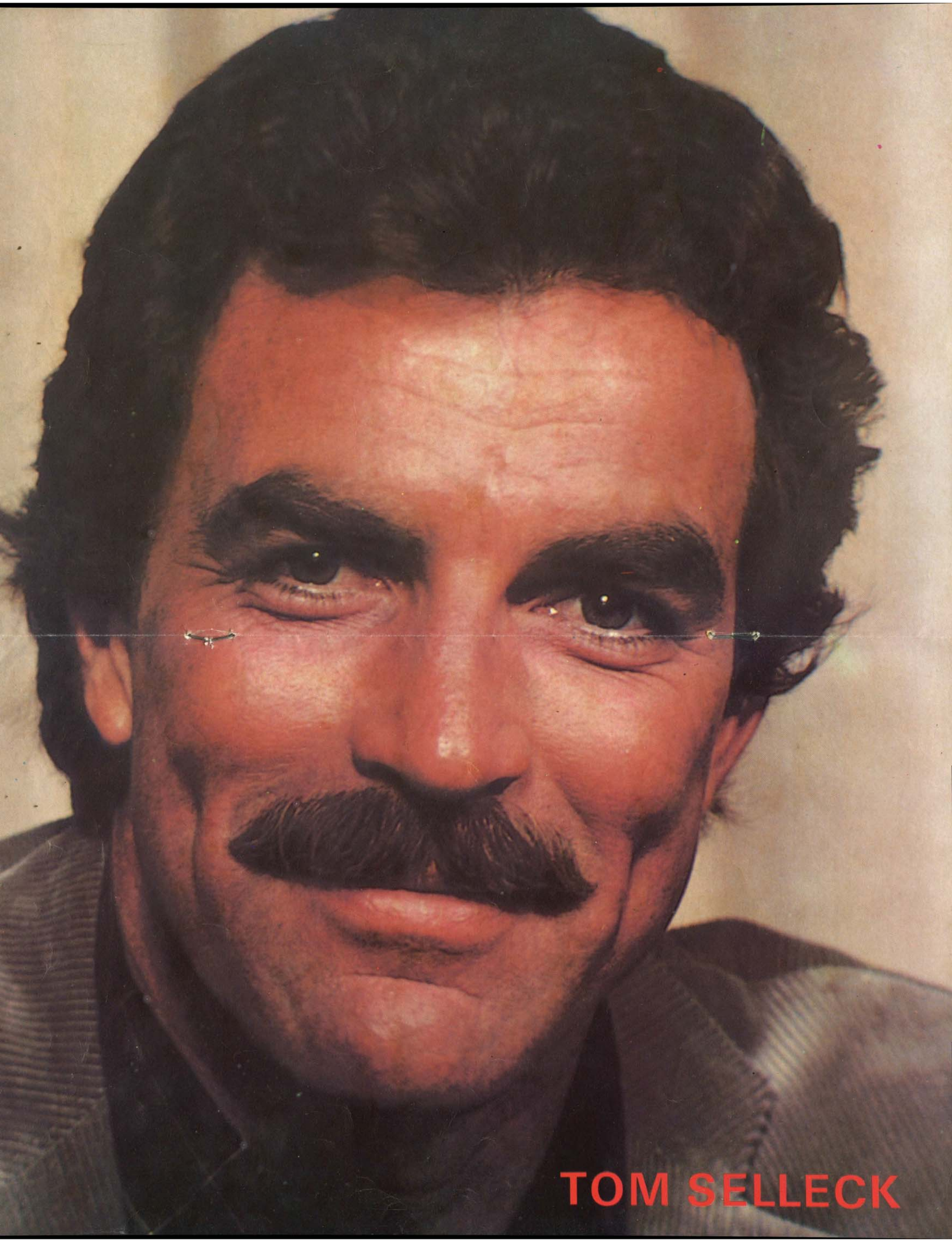
WHAT THOSE WORKED-UP COWBOYS WERE DESCRIBING SOUNDED SUSPICIOUSLY LIKE A UFO!
IF THERE IS A SPACECRAFT FROM ANOTHER PLANET SCOUTING AROUND IN THIS AREA -- IT'S AS MUCH AN INTRUDER IN THIS TIME ERA AS I AM!

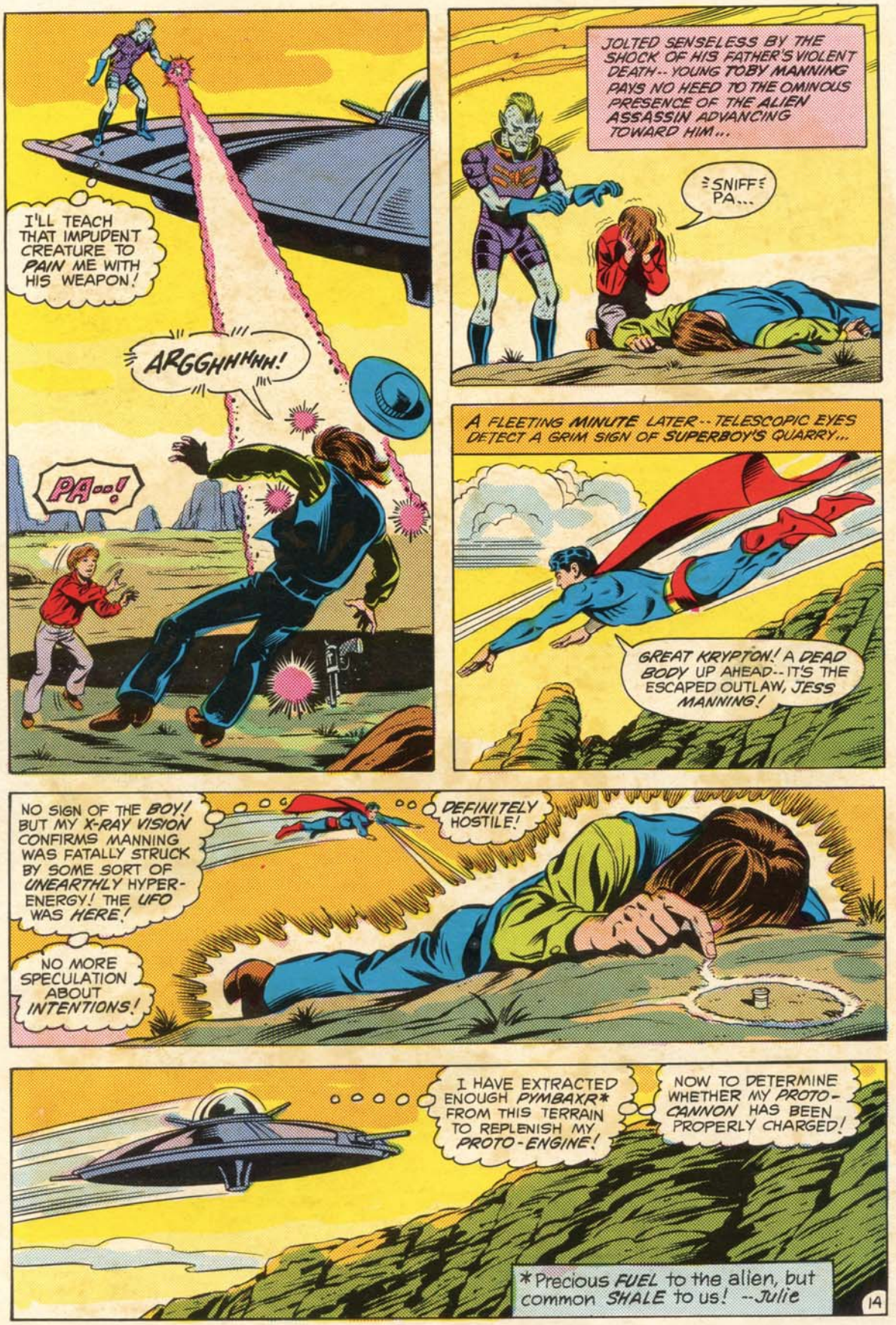
IT'S POSSIBLE THE SPACE-VISITOR MEANS NO HARM! BUT IF HIS INTENTIONS ARE HOSTILE, THESE PEOPLE HAVE NO WAY OF DEFENDING THEMSELVES --
--OR DIDN'T UNTIL I CAME ALONG!
BUT AS SUPERBOY CONTINUES HIS TELESCOPIC SCAN ACROSS THE RUGGED TERRAIN...

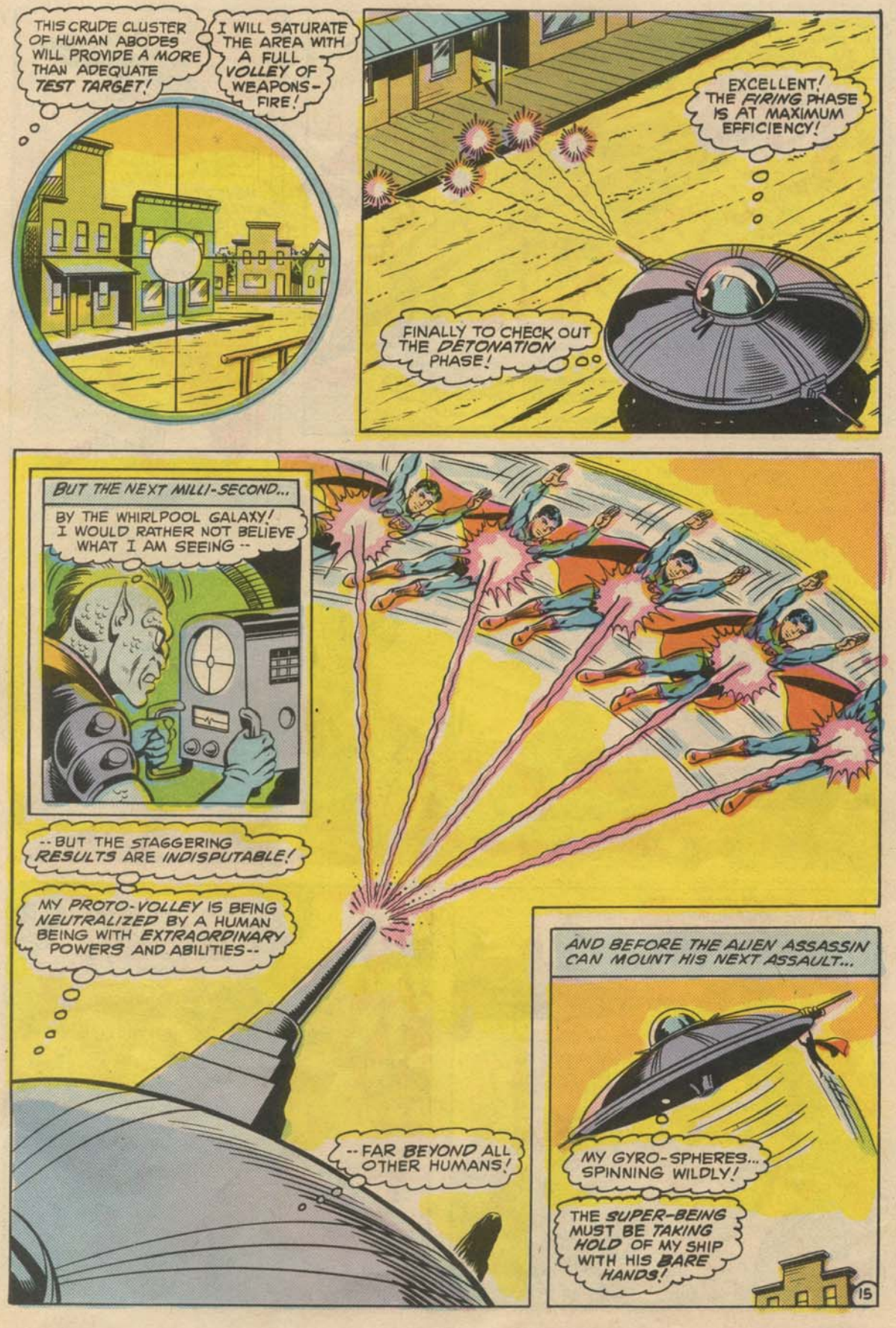
...WE SHIFT OUR ATTENTION TO ESCAPED OUTLAW JESS MANNING AND SON SEVERAL MILES AWAY...
I DON'T LET NO STRANGE LOOKIN' DUDE COME OUTA THE SKY AN' ROB ME!
BAMM! BAMM!
ATTAWAY, PA! YUH WINGED HIM!




TOM SELLECK


TOM SELLECK


I'LL TEACH THAT IMPUDENT CREATURE TO PAIN ME WITH HIS WEAPON!
ARGGHHHHH!
PA...!
JOLTED SENSELESS BY THE SHOCK OF HIS FATHER'S VIOLENT DEATH-- YOUNG TOBY MANNING PAYS NO HEED TO THE OMINOUS PRESENCE OF THE ALIEN ASSASSIN ADVANCING TOWARD HIM...
=SNIFF= PA...
A FLEETING MINUTE LATER-- TELESCOPIC EYES DETECT A GRIM SIGN OF SUPERBOY'S QUARRY...
GREAT KRYPTON! A DEAD BODY UP AHEAD-- IT'S THE ESCAPED OUTLAW, JESS MANNING!
NO SIGN OF THE BOY! BUT MY X-RAY VISION CONFIRMS MANNING WAS FATALLY STRUCK BY SOME SORT OF UNEARTHLY HYPER-ENERGY! THE UFO WAS HERE!
DEFINITELY HOSTILE!
NO MORE SPECULATION ABOUT INTENTIONS!
I HAVE EXTRACTED ENOUGH PYMBAXR* FROM THIS TERRAIN TO REPLENISH MY PROTO-ENGINE!
NOW TO DETERMINE WHETHER MY PROTO-CANNON HAS BEEN PROPERLY CHARGED!
*Precious FUEL to the alien, but common SHALE to us! --Julie
14


THIS CRUDE CLUSTER OF HUMAN ABODES WILL PROVIDE A MORE THAN ADEQUATE TEST TARGET!
I WILL SATURATE THE AREA WITH A FULL VOLLEY OF WEAPONS-FIRE!
EXCELLENT! THE FIRING PHASE IS AT MAXIMUM EFFICIENCY!
FINALLY TO CHECK OUT THE DETONATION PHASE!
BUT THE NEXT MILLI-SECOND...
BY THE WHIRLPOOL GALAXY! I WOULD RATHER NOT BELIEVE WHAT I AM SEEING --
-- BUT THE STAGGERING RESULTS ARE INDISPUTABLE!
MY PROTO-VOLLEY IS BEING NEUTRALIZED BY A HUMAN BEING WITH EXTRAORDINARY POWERS AND ABILITIES--
-- FAR BEYOND ALL OTHER HUMANS!
AND BEFORE THE ALIEN ASSASSIN CAN MOUNT HIS NEXT ASSAULT...
MY GYRO-SPHERES... SPINNING WILDLY!
THE SUPER-BEING MUST BE TAKING HOLD OF MY SHIP WITH HIS BARE HANDS!
15

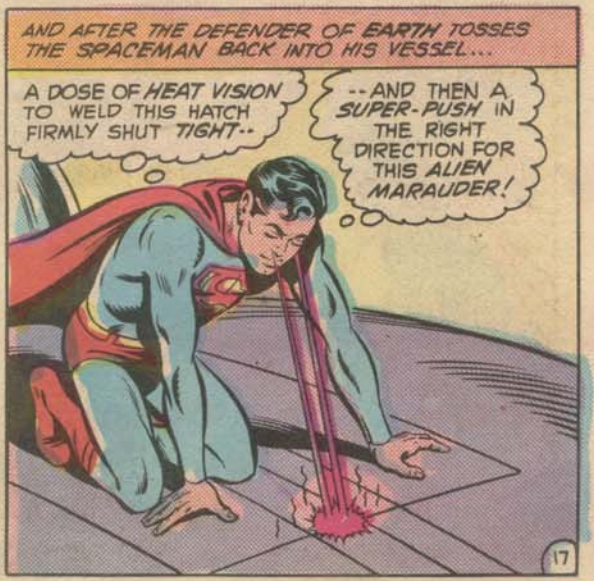
ZZZTZTT!
UHHHH! TOO SHOCKED TO HOLD ON!
AH! THERE IS NO LIFE-FORM IN THE GALAXY CAPABLE OF WITHSTANDING THE FORCE OF MY REPELLO CHARGE!
NEVERTHELESS I AM AMAZED THAT MY INSTRUMENTS SHOW THIS CAPED BEING DID NOT PERISH FROM THE SHOCK!
INCREDIBLY, IT MERELY STUNNED HIM!
I MUST TERMINATE THE LIFE OF THIS SUPER-HUMAN WITHOUT DELAY!
WITH HIS AWESOME POWERS, HE IS MUCH TOO DANGEROUS AN ADVERSARY TO LEAVE ALIVE!
BUT THE NEXT MOMENT, TO THE ALIEN ASSASSIN'S UTTER ASTONISHMENT...
HE RISES TO HIS FEET SO QUICKLY?!
I DO NOT HAVE A MYNBOT TO WASTE!
EACH OF THESE ULTRA-WEAPONS WOULD SURELY DESTROY HIS LIFE-ESSENCE!
BUT TO DOUBLY ENSURE HIS DEMISE...
16

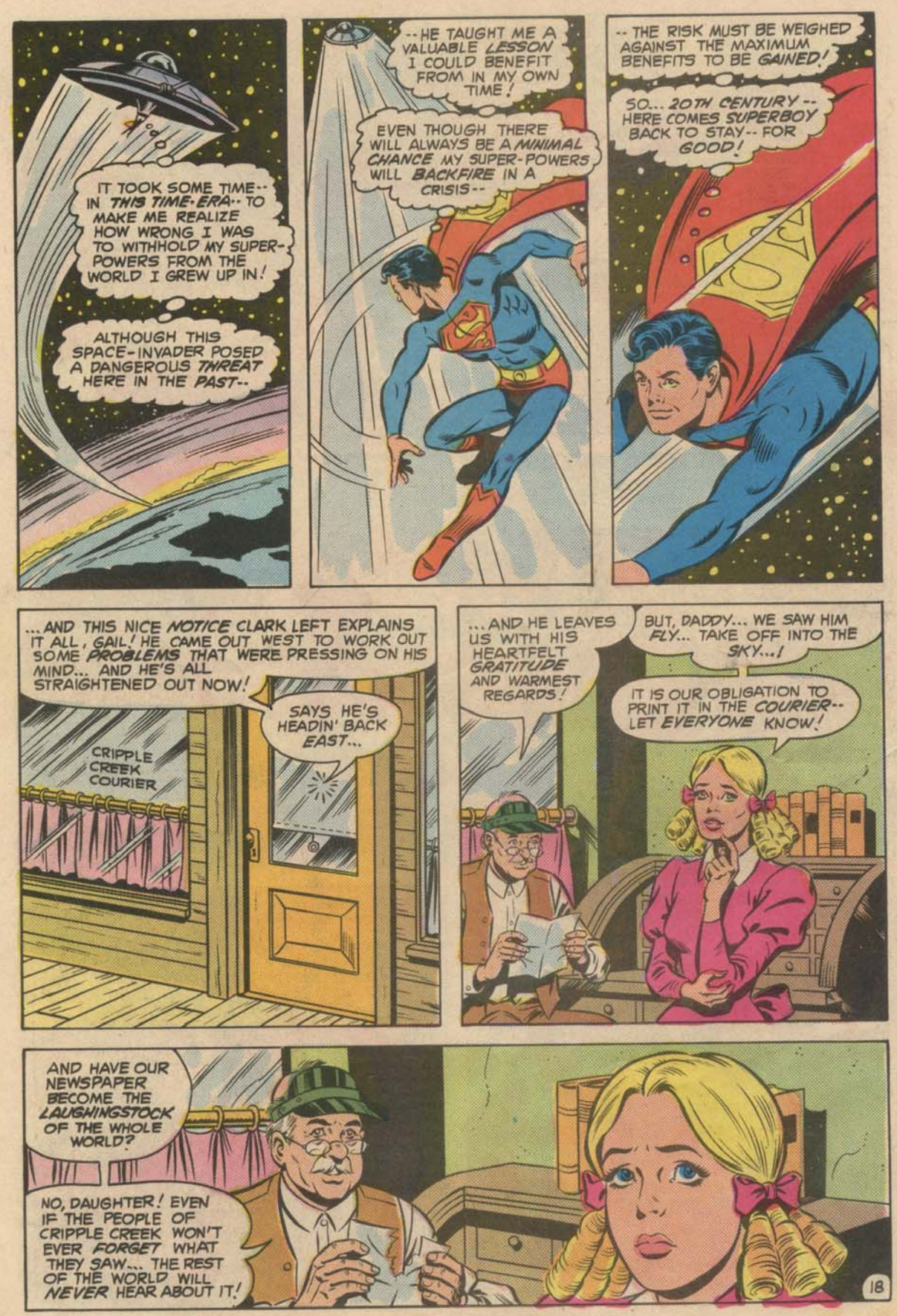
...I SHALL ACTIVATE BOTH WEAPONS SIMULTANEOUSLY!
ZZZZZT!
KA-BLATTZZZ

AND WHEN THE ACRID WISPS OF SMOKE DRIFT AWAY FROM WHERE THE TEEN OF STEEL HAS STOOD...
ENOUGH DESTRUCTIVE POWER WAS CONCENTRATED ON THAT SITE TO IGNITE A DEAD SUN!

NOW I CAN CONTINUE TOYING WITH THESE EARTHLINGS... WITHOUT FACING ANY FURTHER OPPOSITION!

BY RYTRA! IT IS INCONCEIVABLE! THE CAPED BEING IS STILL ALIVE--
...AND WELL AS THE SAYING GOES!
THAT DOUBLE-BARREL DISPLAY OF YOURS DIDN'T EVEN RATE A TICKLE!


AND AFTER THE DEFENDER OF EARTH TOSSES THE SPACEMAN BACK INTO HIS VESSEL...
A DOSE OF HEAT VISION TO WELD THIS HATCH FIRMLY SHUT TIGHT--
--AND THEN A SUPER-PUSH IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION FOR THIS ALIEN MARAUDER!

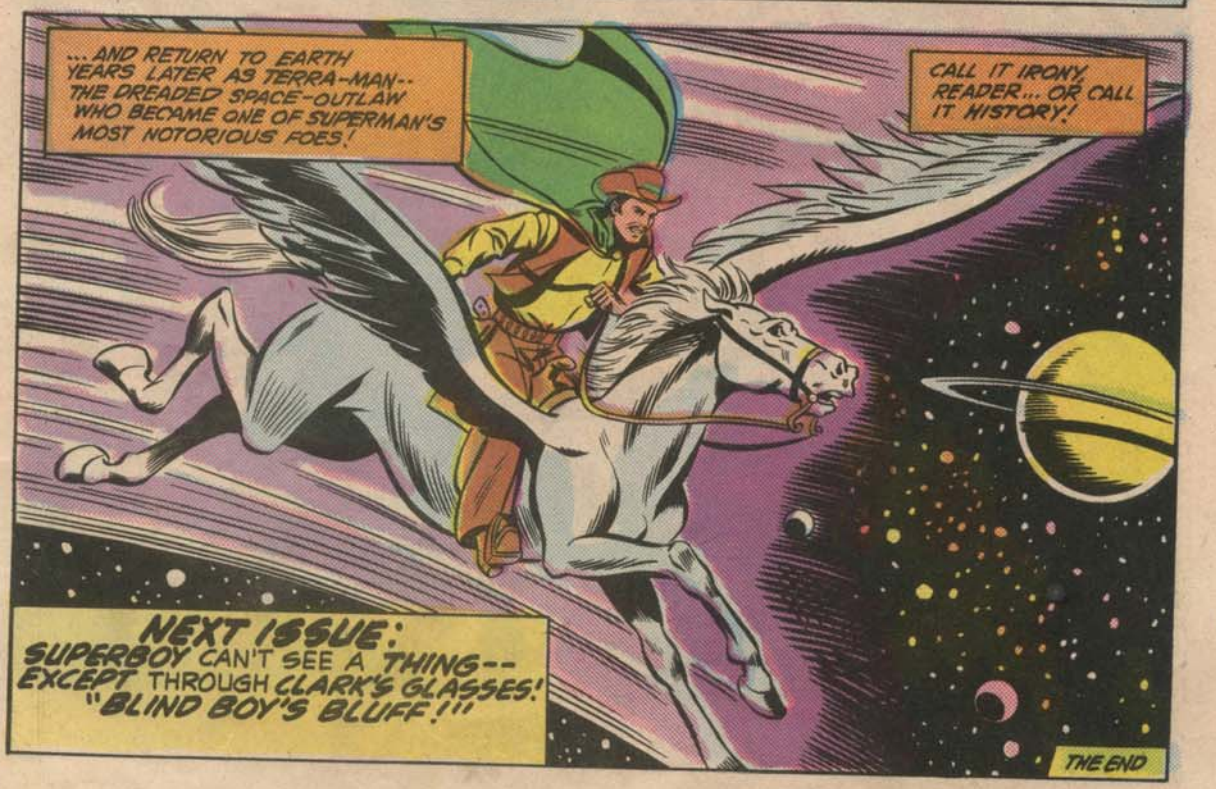

IT TOOK SOME TIME-- IN THIS TIME-ERA-- TO MAKE ME REALIZE HOW WRONG I WAS TO WITHHOLD MY SUPER-POWERS FROM THE WORLD I GREW UP IN!
ALTHOUGH THIS SPACE-INVADER POSED A DANGEROUS THREAT HERE IN THE PAST--
--HE TAUGHT ME A VALUABLE LESSON I COULD BENEFIT FROM IN MY OWN TIME!
EVEN THOUGH THERE WILL ALWAYS BE A MINIMAL CHANCE MY SUPER-POWERS WILL BACKFIRE IN A CRISIS--
--THE RISK MUST BE WEIGHED AGAINST THE MAXIMUM BENEFITS TO BE GAINED!
SO... 20TH CENTURY-- HERE COMES SUPERBOY BACK TO STAY-- FOR GOOD!
...AND THIS NICE NOTICE CLARK LEFT EXPLAINS IT ALL, GAIL! HE CAME OUT WEST TO WORK OUT SOME PROBLEMS THAT WERE PRESSING ON HIS MIND... AND HE'S ALL STRAIGHTENED OUT NOW!
SAYS HE'S HEADIN' BACK EAST...
CRIPPLE CREEK COURIER
...AND HE LEAVES US WITH HIS HEARTFELT GRATITUDE AND WARMEST REGARDS!
BUT, DADDY... WE SAW HIM FLY... TAKE OFF INTO THE SKY...!
IT IS OUR OBLIGATION TO PRINT IT IN THE COURIER-- LET EVERYONE KNOW!
AND HAVE OUR NEWSPAPER BECOME THE LAUGHINGSTOCK OF THE WHOLE WORLD?
NO, DAUGHTER! EVEN IF THE PEOPLE OF CRIPPLE CREEK WON'T EVER FORGET WHAT THEY SAW... THE REST OF THE WORLD WILL NEVER HEAR ABOUT IT!

EPILOGUE

WHILE THE TEEN OF STEEL RETURNS TO HIS OWN ERA AND A GREATLY RELIEVED MA AND PA KENT IN SMALLVILLE...
...HIS ALIEN ADVERSARY FLEES INTO DEEP SPACE, LEAVING EARTH LIGHT-YEARS BEHIND!

BEHIND BUT NOT FORGOTTEN -- FOR UNKNOWN TO OUR HERO -- THE SPACE-ASSASSIN WAS NOT ALONE WHEN SUPERBOY HURLED HIM OFF THE EARTH!
I WILL TEACH YOU ALL I KNOW, TOBY, AS WE TRAVERSE THE GALAXY TOGETHER, YOU AND I!

WHEN YOU REACH MANHOOD, I PREDICT YOU WILL BECOME AN EVEN GREATER INTER-STELLAR OUTLAW THAN I!
YOU WILL BE THE OFFSPRING I NEVER HAD!
FATE DECREED THAT YOUNG TOBY MANNING WOULD NOT ONLY LIVE UP TO HIS ALIEN MENTOR'S DREAMS, BUT FAR SURPASS THEM...


...AND RETURN TO EARTH YEARS LATER AS TERRA-MAN -- THE DREADED SPACE-OUTLAW WHO BECAME ONE OF SUPERMAN'S MOST NOTORIOUS FOES!
CALL IT IRONY, READER... OR CALL IT HISTORY!
NEXT ISSUE: SUPERBOY CAN'T SEE A THING -- EXCEPT THROUGH CLARK'S GLASSES! "BLIND BOY'S BLUFF!!!"
THE END

PRESENTING AN *UNTOLD CHAPTER* IN THE *BOY OF STEEL'S* EARLIER LIFE, AS RECORDED BY HIM IN...

SUPERBOY'S SECRET DIARY

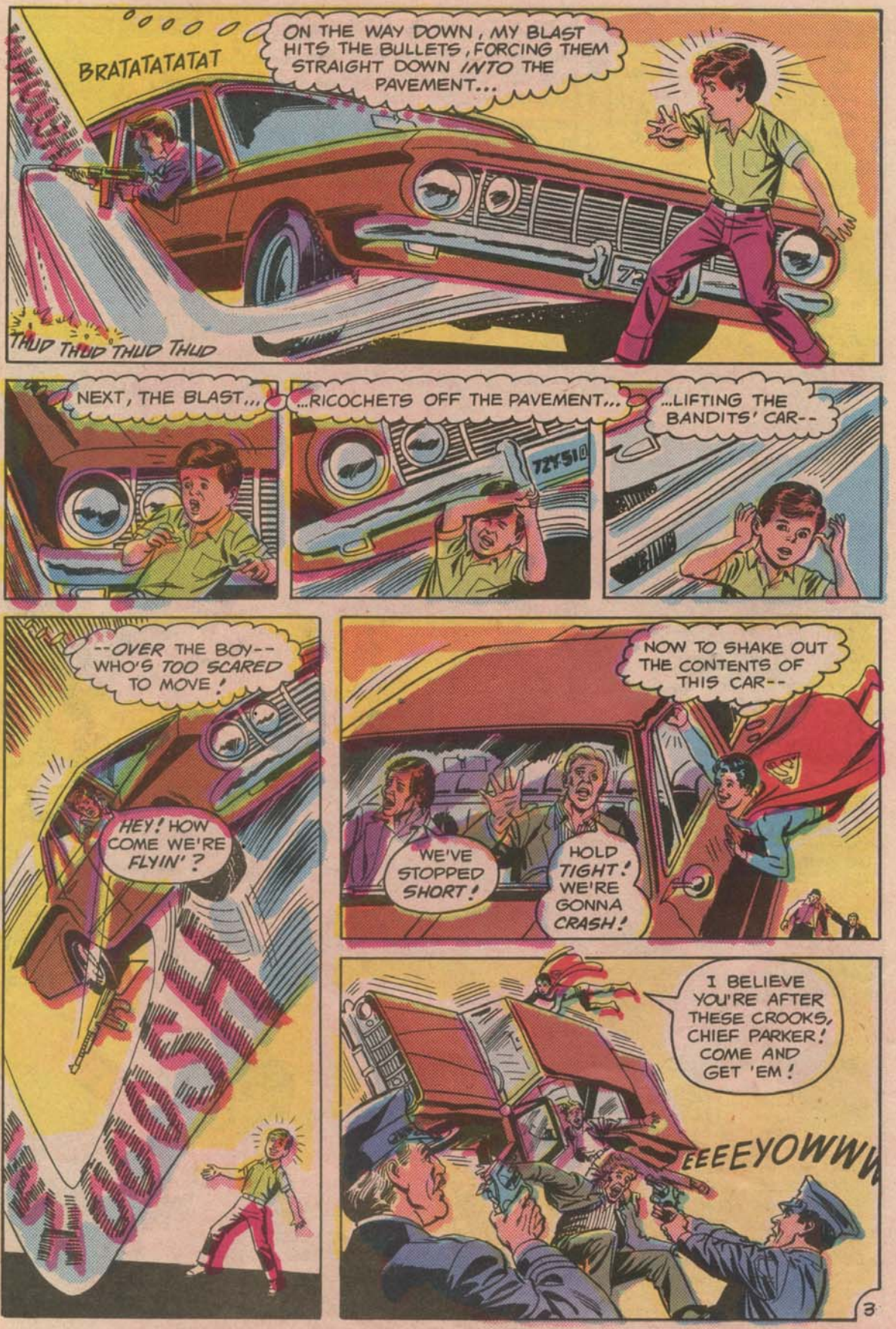
Life isn't an unbroken series of missions and rescues for me. Now and then I like to get away from it all, out in space, and just have a little fun. But how was I to know this innocent sport would be the beginning of...

THE DAY OF THE SECRET SIGNAL!

IT'S *FANTASTIC*... THE WAY I CAN MANEUVER IN SPACE! I WAS AFRAID IT WOULD TAKE A LOT OF PRACTICE, BUT I GOT THE HANG OF IT EASILY!
GREAT *SUNS*! I'VE GOT TO FLY BACK THERE AT *TOP SPEED*!
THIS SURE IS *FUN*-- BUT I CAN'T *NEGLECT* MY DUTIES IN *SMALLVILLE*!
I BETTER TAKE A LOOK AND SEE HOW THINGS ARE GOING...
5-3715

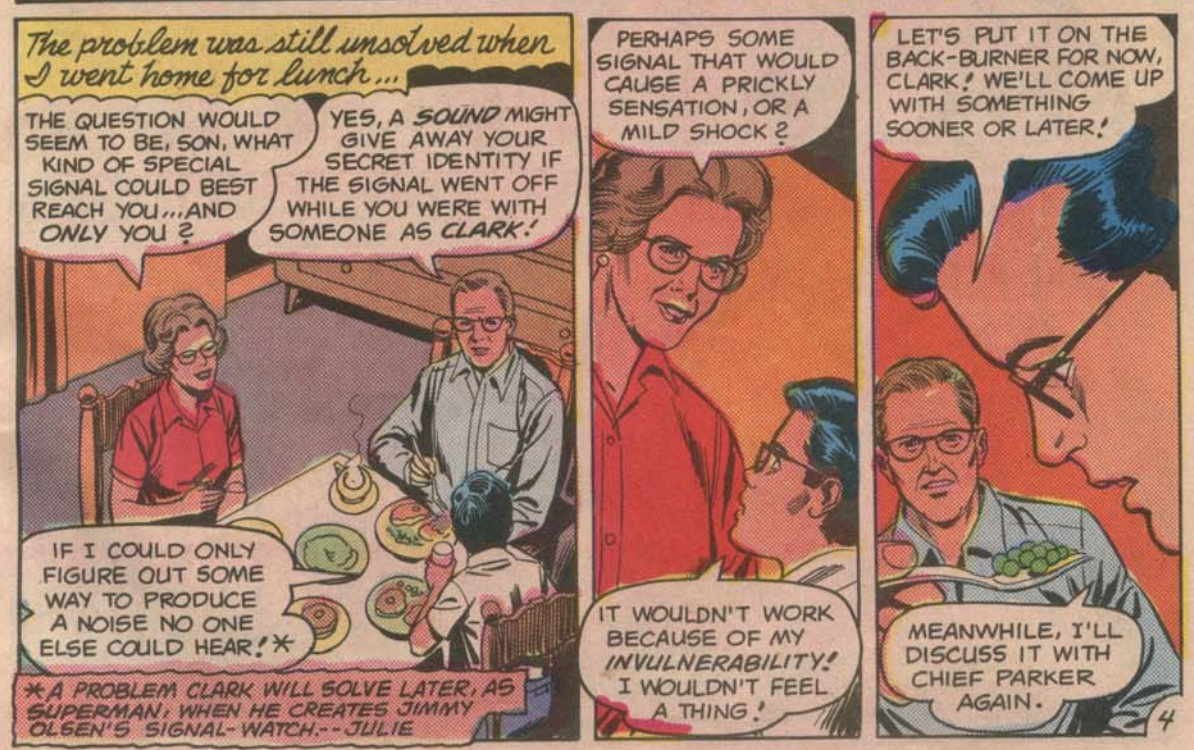
WRITER: E. NELSON BRIDWELL • *PENCILER*: JOHN CALNAN • *INKER*: JOE GIELLA
LETTERER: MILT SNAPINN • *COLORIST*: JERRY SERPE *EDITOR*: JULIUS SCHWARTZ

What I'd seen was Chief Parker and another officer take off after some bank-holdup men...
THEY'RE ARMED AND DANGEROUS! BE CAREFUL--!
I'LL CUT 'EM OFF AT THE NEXT INTERSECTION, CHIEF!
As I powered on the speed, I kept track of the chase with super-vision and super-hearing...
WEEOOWEEOOWEEOW
WHATTA YA WAITIN' FOR, MOOSE? BLAST THE FUZZ!
MY CHOPPER'S ALL SET TO RIDDLE 'EM!
Suddenly another chase-- as a young boy ran after a ball...
HE'S RUNNING IN FRONT OF THE GETAWAY CAR!
2Y-770
WEEOOWEEOOW
THIS IS A DOUBLE-ACTION JOB FOR SUPERBOY--
SAVE THE BOY AND POLICE --
BRATATATATATATAT
POLICE
--WITH ONE BLAST OF SUPER-BREATH!
WHOOSH


BRATATATATAT
ON THE WAY DOWN, MY BLAST HITS THE BULLETS, FORCING THEM STRAIGHT DOWN INTO THE PAVEMENT...
THUD THUD THUD THUD
NEXT, THE BLAST...
...RICOCHETS OFF THE PAVEMENT...
...LIFTING THE BANDITS' CAR--
--OVER THE BOY-- WHO'S TOO SCARED TO MOVE!
HEY! HOW COME WE'RE FLYIN'?
WHOOSH
NOW TO SHAKE OUT THE CONTENTS OF THIS CAR--
WE'VE STOPPED SHORT!
HOLD TIGHT! WE'RE GONNA CRASH!
I BELIEVE YOU'RE AFTER THESE CROOKS, CHIEF PARKER! COME AND GET 'EM!
EEEEYOWWW
3

HERE'S YOUR BALL BACK, FELLA! NOW REMEMBER--DON'T *EVER* CROSS THE STREET WITHOUT *FIRST* LOOKING TO SEE IF THERE'S ANY TRAFFIC!
I *PROMISE*, SUPERBOY!

Later, in the police station...
IT CERTAINLY WAS LUCKY YOU SPOTTED THOSE THUGS WHEN YOU DID! BEEN OFF ON SOME IMPORTANT MISSION, I SUPPOSE?
UH...WELL, NOT REALLY, CHIEF PARKER! I WAS FOOLING AROUND--ER, *FLYING* AROUND--AND I HAPPENED TO GLANCE THIS WAY!
SURE, I UNDERSTAND--YOU ARE STILL A BOY! YOU DESERVE SOME TIME TO YOURSELF! STILL, I WISH--
--THAT YOU COULD *CALL* ME WHENEVER I'M NEEDED? THAT WOULD BE *GREAT*! LET ME THINK ABOUT IT!


The problem was still unsolved when I went home for lunch...
THE QUESTION WOULD SEEM TO BE, SON, WHAT KIND OF SPECIAL SIGNAL COULD BEST REACH YOU...AND *ONLY* YOU?
YES, A *SOUND* MIGHT GIVE AWAY YOUR SECRET IDENTITY IF THE SIGNAL WENT OFF WHILE YOU WERE WITH SOMEONE AS *CLARK*!
IF I COULD ONLY FIGURE OUT SOME WAY TO PRODUCE A NOISE NO ONE ELSE COULD HEAR!*
*A PROBLEM CLARK WILL SOLVE LATER, AS SUPERMAN, WHEN HE CREATES JIMMY OLSEN'S SIGNAL-WATCH.--JULIE
PERHAPS SOME SIGNAL THAT WOULD CAUSE A PRICKLY SENSATION, OR A MILD SHOCK?
IT WOULDN'T WORK BECAUSE OF MY *INVULNERABILITY*! I WOULDN'T FEEL A THING!
LET'S PUT IT ON THE BACK-BURNER FOR NOW, CLARK! WE'LL COME UP WITH SOMETHING SOONER OR LATER!
MEANWHILE, I'LL DISCUSS IT WITH CHIEF PARKER AGAIN.

So that's where I went, but...
IT CERTAINLY IS A TOUGH PROBLEM-- AND FRANKLY, I CAN'T CRACK IT!
THEN WE'LL KEEP WORKING ON IT UNTIL...
DON'T LEAVE YET, SUPERBOY...
BRIINGGG
HELLO! WHAT?! UH...YES, MR. PRESIDENT! WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU--?
THIS SOUNDS IMPORTANT! I'D BETTER TUNE IN WITH MY SUPER-HEARING!
IT'S A NATIONAL EMERGENCY! WE NEED TO CONTACT SUPERBOY AT ONCE! CAN YOU GET IN TOUCH WITH HIM--?
YES--THAT IS, NO--WHAT I MEAN IS... HE WAS JUST HERE, BUT I'D SAY BY NOW...
...HE'S MOST LIKELY WITH YOU!
--SO HE IS! THAT WAS MIGHTY QUICK WORK, CHIEF! THANKS FOR YOUR COOPERATION!

I'd heard enough to know I was urgently needed in Washington--so I flew there at super-speed...
SUPERBOY, YOUR POWERS ARE OUR ONLY HOPE! THIS MORNING, AN ESCAPED MENTAL PATIENT WAS PICKED UP IN GEORGETOWN!
HE'S A FORMER ATOMIC SCIENTIST--A BRILLIANT MIND BEFORE IT CRACKED!
HE CONFESSED--NO, BOASTED--THAT HE HAD ASSEMBLED AN ATOMIC DEVICE AND HIDDEN IT SOMEWHERE IN THE DISTRICT!
IT'S SET TO GO OFF WITHIN THE HOUR!
HOW CAN YOU BE SO SURE HE WAS TELLING THE TRUTH, SIR?
WITH A MADMAN, THERE'S NO WAY OF TELLING! BUT WE KNOW IF HE COULD GET THE MATERIALS, HE IS SURELY CAPABLE OF DOING IT!
ANY IDEA WHAT KIND OF TRIGGERING DEVICE HE USED?
NONE!
THEN MY X-RAY VISION MIGHT SET IT OFF! I HAVE TO USE SOME OTHER WAY TO FIND IT!
AN ATOMIC BOMB HAS RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS--AND IF ONE MAN PLANTED IT, LEAD SHIELDING WOULD'VE MADE IT TOO HEAVY FOR HIM!
THE RADIATION IS NORMALLY INVISIBLE--BUT I CAN SEE BEYOND THE VISIBLE SPECTRUM WITH MY SUPER-VISION!
6

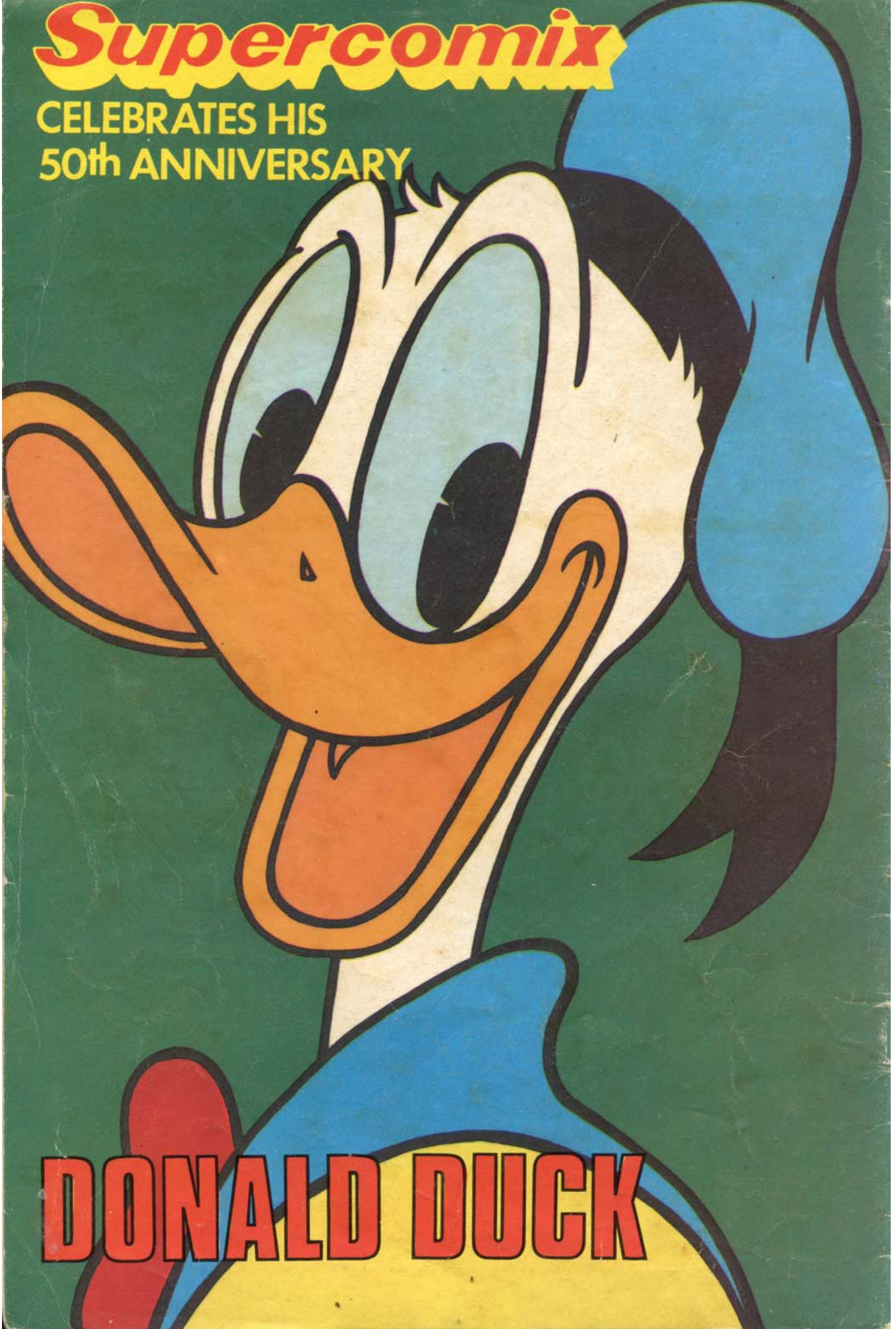
Zooming high into the air, it didn't take long to spot the telltale radiation...
THERE--IN THE CAPITOL CUPOLA!
NOW TO DISPOSE OF THE ATOMIC DEVICE WHERE IT WON'T DO ANY HARM!
RUNCHH!
Then, 50 million miles into space...
THE SUN IS A MASS OF ATOMIC EXPLOSIONS! ANOTHER LITTLE ONE WILL HARDLY BE NOTICED!
Back at the White house, I filled in the President...
THEN WHAT LED YOU TO THE BOMB WAS THE RADIATION'S GLOW--
GLOW--!? OF COURSE, THAT'S IT!
?!
THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT! YOU'VE SOLVED MY PROBLEM!
I'LL BE BACK SHORTLY--WITH AN EXPLANATION... AND A SURPRISE!

I hurried to my basement-workshop and started on the project...
THIS MAY NOT BE THE BEST WAY OF GETTING AN EMERGENCY CALL--BUT IT'LL DO FOR NOW!
As soon as I finished, I took one of the boxes to Chief Parker...
...AND WITH THIS, YOU CAN SUMMON ME WHENEVER THERE'S A SPECIAL NEED!
THANKS--HOW DOES IT WORK?
ER... SORRY, CHIEF... BUT THAT WILL HAVE TO REMAIN MY SECRET!
SMALLVILLE POLICE
Then I took the other to the President...
...AND WHEN I PRESS THIS BUTTON, THE SIGNAL WILL REACH YOU?
YOU CAN COUNT ON IT, MR. PRESIDENT!
Only Ma and Pa knew what pressing those buttons would do...
WHENEVER EITHER OF THEM PRESSES HIS EMERGENCY BUTTON, THIS LAMP IN MY BEDROOM WILL BLINK OFF AND ON!
NATURALLY, I'LL TAKE FREQUENT SUPER-VISION GLANCES AT IT WHEREVER I AM!
VERY INGENIOUS, SON! CONGRATULATIONS!
HOW ABOUT THAT FOR A COINCIDENCE--IT'S BLINKING NOW!
MY TELESCOPIC VISION SHOWS IT'S CHIEF PARKER CALLING! GOT TO GET GOING...
LATER, A THIRD PERSON--PROF. LANG--RECEIVED A SIMILAR BOX! HOW THAT CAME ABOUT WILL BE TOLD IN A LATER SECRET DIARY STORY!

NEXT ISSUE: A NEW EPISODE IN THE MISADVENTURES OF SUPERBABY!

Supercomix

CELEBRATES HIS
50th ANNIVERSARY



DONALD DUCK